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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Bureau of Standards
Washington, D.C. 20234

December 16, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR FIPS Points of Contact

From: Harry S. White, Jr. *Harry S. White Jr.*
Associate Director for ADP Standards

Subject: FIPS Task Group 24 - Data Base Management Systems (DBMS)

The Federal Information Processing Standards Coordinating and Advisory Committee (FIPSCAC) approved a scope and program of work, at its November 18, 1976 meeting for the subject task group (copy attached). The purpose of this memorandum is to solicit nominations for members for Task Group 24.

The purpose of this task group is to make recommendations within one year to FIPSCAC and NBS on the need for Federal data base management system standards and any appropriate standards activities to meet such needs. In order to satisfy the purpose of the task group within the planned time frame, participants with a high degree of technical expertise in DBMS technology and application are being sought. Task group members will be selected on the basis of: their overall experience with DBMS, knowledge of hierarchical network and relational data models, direct experience installing or building a DBMS, systems programming experience in maintaining a DBMS, experience as a data base administrator, or experience in evaluation/performance measurement of a DBMS.

The task group will be limited in membership to those having the above mentioned capabilities. Those selected should plan on devoting two to three days every four weeks for meetings with several days of preparation work between meetings. Please submit your nominations by January 14, 1977 along with a description of their DBMS experience to:

Mr. John L. Berg
Chairman, Task Group 24
National Bureau of Standards
Room A265, Technology Building
Washington, D.C. 20234
(301) 921-3861

Those nominees selected will be announced prior to the initial meeting of the task group. It is expected that all task group meetings will be held at the Gaithersburg, Maryland, NBS facilities. It is anticipated that the initial meeting will be held in early February 1977. Please contact Mr. Berg if you have any questions concerning the task group and its activities.

Your continued support of the Federal Information Processing Standards Program is most appreciated.



FIPS TASK GROUP 24

Data Base Management Systems (DBMS)

Purpose

To make recommendations within one year to NBS and the FIPS Coordinating and Advisory Committee on the need for Federal data base management system standards and any appropriate standards activities to meet such needs.

Scope

The task group will consider all areas within current data base technology with a view towards defining relationships between DBMS and existing FIPS activities and a more precise statement of the scope for recommended standards activities. The area of study will include: distributed processing and data bases, networking, data description languages, data manipulation languages, data dictionary/directory functions, DBMS support functions, and the role of mini/microcomputers in DBMS.

Program of Work

1. Determine the Federal need for DBMS standards. Consider Federal DBMS standards in such technical areas as DDL-DML, minicomputers and networking.
2. Survey existing DBMS models, determine the relative merits to the Federal agencies of the various models, and collect formal specifications.
3. Prioritize the various model specifications for detailed study.
4. For such model specification selected for detailed study, survey existing implementations and review to what extent each model specification feature was, in fact, implemented.
5. For each model specification selected for detailed study, make a formal recommendation for Federal action.